

HOUSE No. 3997

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bradford R. Hill

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act proposing criminal background checks of religious personnel.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Bradford R. Hill

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

4th Essex

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT PROPOSING CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS OF RELIGIOUS PERSONNEL.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 Chapter 6 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 178Q the following section:-
- 2 Section 178R. The sex offender registry board shall conduct criminal background checks and finger print
- 3 the following persons, a priest, rabbi, clergy member, ordained or licensed minister, leader of any church
- 4 or religious body, accredited Christian Science practitioner, person performing official duties on behalf of
- 5 a church or religious body that are recognized as the duties of a priest, rabbi, clergy, ordained or licensed
- 6 minister, leader of any church or religious body, or accredited Christian Science practitioner, or person
- 7 employed by a church or religious body to supervise, educate, coach, train or counsel a child on a regular
- 8 basis.